

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045899 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:IO/HR:FCRAWFORD
APPROVED BY:IO:PBUNGE
-----021217 107028 /17
R 020554Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T STATE 045899

FOLLOWING BUENOS AIRES 00881 SENT ACTION SECSTATE FEB 3;
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 0881

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, MASS, AR, US
SUBJECT: US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS

REF: STATE 023271

1. AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL DID INDEED RETURN TO BUENOS AIRES OVER WEEKEND--APPARENTLY ARRIVING HERE JAN 31. AFTER CONFERRING WITH PRESIDENT AND FONMINISTER HE DEPARTED FOR RIO THIS MORNING (FEB 3), PLANNING TO RETURN TO BUENOS AIRES FEB 13 AND THEN FLY BACK TO WASHINGTON FEB 15-16. I INVITED HIM TO LUNCH AND TO BREAKFAST BUT HE PLEADED EXTREMELY HEAVY SCHEDULE AND SUGGESTED WE GET TOGETHER ON FEB 13 OR 14 AFTER HIS RETURN FROM RIO.

2. LONG-TIME EMBASSY CONTACT WAS CALLED INTO MEETING BETWEEN FON MINISTER AND AJA ESPIL ON QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND IMPACT ON US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS. AJA ESPIL URGED SOURCE TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO APPEAR BEFORE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE. SOURCE SAID THERE NO

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POINT IN DOING SO UNLESS GOA HAD MEANWHILE GIVEN EVIDENCE OF IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. IT WAS, HE SAID, OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT GOA ISSUE LIST OF THOSE DETAINED AND BRING TO TRIAL AT LEAST SOME OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXCESSES. SOURCE TELLS US AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL SUPPORTED HIM IN THIS, EMPHASIZING TO FONMINISTER GUZZETTI SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG VIEWED THE SITUATION AND POSSIBILITY OF CONFRONTATION UNLESS AT

LEAST THE TWO STEPS SUGGESTED BY SOURCE WERE TAKEN.

3. SOURCE REPORTED TO EMBOFF HOWEVER THAT GUZZETTI HAD STATED FLATLY THAT BOTH MEASURES WERE OUT OF THE QUESTION. FULL LIST OF THOSE DETAINED COULD NOT BE ISSUED, HE SAID, BECAUSE "THAT WOULD GIVE AID AND COMFORT TO THE TERRORISTS." SOME OF THOSE GUILTY OF EXCESSES ARE BEING BROUGHT TO TRIAL, GUZZETTI CON- TENDED, BUT PUBLIC TRIALS COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED SINCE THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO DEMORALIZATION OF THE SECURITY FORCES AND DIVISIONS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT.

4. SOURCE SAID HE LEFT MEETING WITH IMPRESSION THAT (1) AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL HAD CONVEYED TO GUZZETTI STRONG PROBABILITY OF CONFRONTATION WITH USG UNLESS MEANINGFUL RECTIFICATIONS ON PART OF GOA WERE FORTHCOMING ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, AND (2) THAT GUZZETTI'S REACTION WAS THAT GOA COULD NOT RPT NOT DO WHAT USG DESIRED EVEN IF RESULT WAS CONFRONTATION BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS.

5. I HAVE ASKED FOR AUDIENCE WITH FONMINISTER GUZZETTI EARLY NEXT WEEK TO AGAIN EMPHASIZE SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION TO HIM. HILL UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, AMBASSADORS, VISITS, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 23271
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2937084
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, MASS, AR, US, (AJA ESPIL)
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ab9c07ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009